

(c) Replacement Drawings

A replacement drawing (Fig. 2) is attached hereto as follows.

(e) Remarks

The claim amendments incorporate changes intended to overcome the Examiner's section 112 rejections. New claim 29 replaces claim 24, and contains only the limitations of claim 24 in a more intelligible form.

It is hoped that the appended replacement Figure 2 will assist in the understanding of the difference between the email client programs and the client control program, which is repeatedly discussed in the disclosure of this application, but which did not appear in original Figure 2. However the disclosure makes it clear that the client control program must communicate directly with the Alias email server, as shown in the new Figure 2.

Regarding the section 103 rejections, the Applicant believes that the references cited by the Examiner do not either disclose or claim two of the main elements of the current invention: namely

(1) the filtering of the email messages at the alias email server; and

(2) the use of the client control program, resident on the user's computer, which allows the user to communicate with the alias email server.

Regarding (1) above, the filtering of the messages by the alias email server is critical to this invention

because otherwise the filtering would have to be done by the client email server, which would require each user to have a special email client modified for this purpose. Although some current email clients do have some filtering capabilities, they are very limited in scope. By placing the filtering process at the alias email server, the number of filter parameters can be expanded indefinitely, while allowing the user to use any email client he/she wishes.

2. Control of the alias email server by a program resident on the user's computer (client control program) is another important feature of the present invention because it simplifies operation significantly. The user enters a note, and then clicks on a single button, which generates a new alias email address, and copies it into the user's clipboard. It can then be pasted on any WEB site requesting the user's email address. In addition, the client control program allows the user to review the email log with a single click.

The advantages of this client control program were noted in an article in PC Magazine in May, 2003, which reviewed currently available SPAM control systems. See Exhibit A (box placed around key paragraph by Applicant's Attorney). Note that the article referred to the feature as "unique", despite the fact that the article was

published about 17 months after the filing date of the current application. Although the opinion of PC Magazine is clearly not dispositive as to this issue, the magazine is one of the most respected in its field, and the article is evidence that the use of such a client control program was not known in the industry at the time of the publication of the article, and that the client control program is an important feature enhancing the utility of the system.

3. The Lee patent, US 6,212,553, cited by the Examiner as a reference, cannot be used as such, because it is non-analogous prior art, since it is not reasonably pertinent to the specific problem with which the present invention is involved. In re Deminski, 230 USPQ 313, 315 (Fed. Cir. 1986). The current invention's object is best summarized in the first paragraph of the SUMMARY, which states:

"[015] It is a general object of the current invention to provide a system and method to block unwanted Email from a user's Email client program. It is a further object of the invention to provide the user with an unlimited number of alias Email addresses which can be used or discarded as they become available to Spammers."

In contrast, Lee does not even mention Spam, or unwanted email.

The inventor is presumed to have full knowledge of prior art in his field of endeavor, but with regard to prior art outside of that field, the inventor is only presumed to have knowledge of those arts that are reasonably pertinent to the particular problem with which the inventor was involved. *In re Wood*, 202 USPQ 171, 174 (Fed. Cir. 1993). The Lee patent does not deal in any way with the problem of Spam and unwanted email.

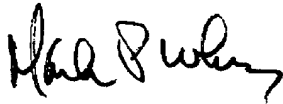
"A reference is reasonably pertinent if it is one which, because of the matter with which it deals, logically would have commended itself to the inventor's attention in considering his problem... [I]f an invention is directed to a different purpose, the inventor would accordingly have had less motivation or occasion to consider it." *In re Clay*, 23 USPQ.2d 1058, 1061 (Fed. Cir. 1992). Again, there would be no motivation for an inventor to consider the Lee patent in dealing with the present problem.

Accordingly, the section 103 rejections made by the Examiner which are based on inclusion of Lee as a reference must fail.

As a result of the amendments made above, and in light of the arguments presented, it is believed that all of the

remaining claims contained in this amendment are allowable,
and that the present application is in condition for
allowance, which is respectfully requested.

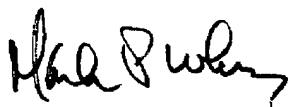
Respectfully submitted on January 19, 2005 by Attorney
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Certificate of FAX Transmission

I hereby certify that this transmission was sent on January 19, 2005 by FAX,
addressed to USPTO, BOX Amendments to Telephone No. 703-872-9306.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark P. White". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark P. White